

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



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**CLOSURE OF STATE WATERS IN THE SEMIDI ISLAND
OVERLAP SECTION OF THE KODIAK DISTRICT
TO COMMERCIAL TANNER CRAB FISHING**

EMERGENCY ORDER NO. 4-S-17-12

State-waters (0 to 3 nmi) of the Semidi Island Overlap Section (including Sutwik) of the Kodiak District will close to Tanner crab fishing at **5:59 PM on Saturday, February 25, 2012**. Voluntary catch reports indicate a closure is warranted due to low Tanner crab abundance and declining fishery performance.

Vessels that continue to fish in the Semidi Island Overlap Section are not required to deliver retained Tanner crab from the closed area. However, all pots remaining in state-waters must be unbaited at the time of the closure. Unbaited pots may be stored in the closed area in waters deeper than 25 fathoms for 72 hours. After 72 hours, all pots remaining in the closed area must be placed in waters shallower than 25 fathoms.

For further details, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Kodiak at (907) 486-1840.